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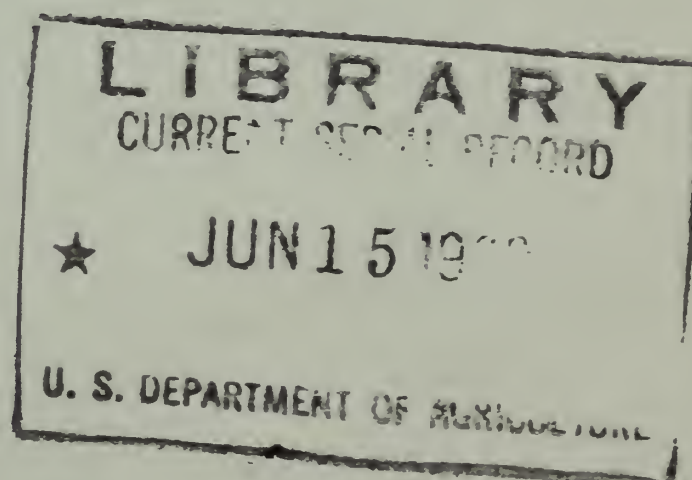


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Cap. 2

ARS 91-23  
MAY 1960

# BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS ERADICATION

(Recommended)  
Uniform Methods  
and Rules



Agricultural Research Service  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

This publication is the recommended "Uniform Methods and Rules" for establishing and maintaining:

- Tuberculosis-Free Herds of Cattle
- Modified Accredited Areas

Adopted by the United States Livestock Sanitary Association, December 17, 1959, and approved by the USDA, Agricultural Research Service, Animal Disease Eradication Division, effective April 1, 1960.

This publication has been prepared from attachment to ADE Division Memorandum No. 506.19, dated March 30, 1960.



# BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS ERADICATION

## UNIFORM METHODS AND RULES

### Part I. Individual Accredited Herd Plan

1. (a) A tuberculosis-free accredited herd is one in which no reactors have been found on at least two consecutive annual tuberculin tests. Herds in which reactors occur shall be quarantined and must pass a negative tuberculin test after a period of at least 60 days before the herd may be released from quarantine. If there is indication of advanced tuberculosis in one or more reactors, a second herd test at least 60 days from the prior negative test, and such additional tests as the cooperating State and Federal officials deem necessary shall be applied before releasing the herd from quarantine. All herds in which reactors occur shall be retested in approximately 12 months but not more than 15 months following the first negative test after disclosure of reactors, at which time the herd may be accredited or reaccredited if it otherwise qualifies. These tests (for all herds with advanced tuberculosis) are to be followed by at least two annual herd tests. Tuberculin tests shall be applied by a veterinarian employed in a full-time capacity by the State, the Animal Disease Eradication Division, ARS, or by an accredited veterinarian.

(b) When an accredited herd test or other tests are applied by an accredited veterinarian a report of such tests shall be submitted in accordance with the regulations of the cooperating State and Federal authorities. These officials reserve the right to supervise any tests conducted by an accredited veterinarian.

(c) When suspects to the tuberculin tests are disclosed in herds not containing reactors, such animals shall be quarantined to the premises where disclosed (accredited

herd status to be suspended) and no movement of animals from the herd will be permitted except under permit issued by the cooperating State authorities until the status of the herd is determined by a retest of the suspect not less than 60 days subsequent to the original test. A complete herd test shall be conducted when the suspects are retested or within a period of 6 months.

2. (a) The official tuberculin test shall be the intradermic test. The intradermic injection shall be a measured amount of tuberculin, 0.1 cc. for routine testing 0.2 cc for retesting herds where advanced tuberculosis has been disclosed. The intradermic injection of tuberculin in the cervical area shall be made only in herds where advanced tuberculosis has been disclosed and then only by a full-time employed State or Federal veterinarian.

3. The entire herd, or any cattle in the herd, shall be tuberculin tested or retested at such times as are deemed advisable by the cooperating State and Federal authorities.

4. No animal that has been designated as a reactor at any time shall be retested.

5. (a) Reactors to the tuberculin test shall be removed from the farm in accordance with State and Federal laws and regulations. After their removal, the infected premises shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected with a disinfectant permitted by the Animal Disease Eradication Division, ARS, USDA, and in a manner satisfactory to the cooperating State and Federal authorities.

(b) A complete epidemiological survey shall be made on all herds in which reactors are disclosed, by appropriate State or Federal personnel.

6. Herd additions must originate directly from tuberculosis-free accredited herds or herds (not under quarantine) in a modified accredited area that were tested and found negative within a 12-month period immediately prior



to being added to the herd. Other cattle to be added to an accredited herd shall originate directly from (herds not under quarantine) in modified accredited areas, pass a negative test not more than 30 days prior to entry and be segregated from the remainder of the herd until retested and found negative at least 60 days after entering the premises where the accredited herd is maintained.

7. To qualify for accredited status all animals must be bona fide members of the herd. A certificate issued jointly by the local State and Federal officials shall be in effect. The accredited herd status may be valid for not more than 1 year (365 days) from the date of the qualifying herd test. To qualify for reaccreditation the herd must pass a negative test within a period of 15 months from the last previous accreditation test.

8. Owners of accredited herds shall be required to maintain such environmental conditions as are consistent with the generally accepted standards of good sanitation and herd management. The use of milk or other dairy products for feeding is prohibited unless such products are from a known safe supply or have been pasteurized or sterilized. Identity shall be provided by eartag or other satisfactory means for all animals and complete records of all additions to the herd must be kept. Only properly cleaned and disinfected vehicles may be used for transporting cattle into accredited herds.

9. Failure on the part of an owner to comply with these methods and rules shall constitute sufficient cause for the revocation of the accredited herd certificate.

## Part II. Modified Accredited Area Plan

10. The provisions of the individual accredited herd plan that relates to testing, quarantine, removal of reactors, cleaning, disinfecting, sanitation, and epidemiology shall apply to the modified accredited area plan. All suspects



must be retested or slaughtered and subjected to a post-mortem examination comparable to that required for reactors before calculating the percentage of infection for the county.

11. Modified accredited areas may be reaccredited for a period of 6 years if, as a result of a retest of all cattle in the area, the degree of infection based on the last test of each herd discloses not more than 0.2 percent of the cattle population of the area.

12. Modified accredited areas that disclosed on the last test of all cattle not more than 0.2 percent infection may be reaccredited for a period of 6 years if a retest of 10 or more percent of the cattle in said area discloses a degree of infection not exceeding 0.2 percent. In calculating the degree of infection all post-mortem meat inspection reports of tuberculosis and otherwise disclosed cases of tuberculosis accumulated in said area since the last accreditation test must be included. All herds containing reactors with advanced tuberculosis disclosed in the county within the past 12 years shall be included in the tests for area reaccreditation. (A new group of herds are to be tested during each successive reaccreditation period until all herds in the area have been included).

13. Modified accredited areas that disclose on the last test of all cattle more than 0.2 percent infection may be reaccredited for a period of 3 years if a retest of 20 or more percent of the cattle in said area discloses a degree of infection not exceeding 0.5 percent. In calculating the degree of infection all post-mortem meat inspection reports of tuberculosis and otherwise disclosed cases of tuberculosis accumulated in said area since the last test for accreditation must be included. All herds containing reactors with advanced tuberculosis disclosed in the county within the past 12-years shall be included in the tests for area reaccreditation. (A new group of herds are to be tested during each successive reaccreditation period until all herds in the area have been included).



14. A county or area may be reaccredited in the range or semi-range region upon compliance with paragraph (a), (b), or (c) of this section provided all infected herds disclosed in the county during the preceding 12 years are tested during the period of reaccreditation.

(a) A modified accredited area in the range and semi-range region may be reaccredited for a period of 3 years provided:

(1) That all commercial dairy herds and all registered purebred herds are tested.

(2) That 20 percent of all farm herds are tested (a new group of farm herds shall be tested until all of the area have been included).

(3) That 5 percent of the semi-range breeding females are tested.

(4) That such other cattle as may be considered necessary by the State and Federal cooperating officials are tested.

(5) That the percentage of infection disclosed as a result of such tests as conducted under the provisions of this sub-paragraph does not exceed 0.5 percent of the area cattle population (excluding untested quarantined feeder cattle); the number of reactors used in computing the percentage of infection to be the number accumulated over the 3-year period.

(b) A modified accredited area in the range and semi-range region may be reaccredited for a period of 3 years provided:

(1) That all commercial dairy herds and all registered purebred herds are tested.

(2) That 20 percent of all farm herds are tested (a new group of herds shall be tested until all in the area have been included).

(3) That reports are produced showing that during each year at least 5 percent of the range and semi-range breeding cows in the area as determined by statistics of the A.M.S. or a total of 15 percent during a 3-year period have been subjected to a post-mortem examination at an approved establishment.

(4) That all cattle in herds of origin or cattle associated with those showing evidence of tuberculosis at time of slaughter are immediately tuberculin tested in accordance with the provisions of the accredited herd plan (paragraph 1, Part I).

(5) That such other cattle as may be considered necessary by the State and Federal cooperating officials are tested.

(6) That the percentage of infection disclosed as a result of such tests as conducted under the provisions of this sub-paragraph does not exceed 0.5 percent of the area cattle population (excluding untested quarantine feeder cattle); the number of reactors used in computing the percentage of infection to be the number accumulated over the 3-year period.

(c) A modified accredited area in the range and semi-range region may be recredited for a period of 6 years, provided:

(1) That all commercial dairy herds, non-range farm herds, and registered pure-bred herds are tested.

(2) That all herds found to be infected and all herds adjacent to infected herds are placed under quarantine and tested as required in paragraph 1 (a), Part I.

AMS (Agricultural Marketing Service)



(3) That reports are produced showing that during each year at least 5 percent of the range and semi-range breeding cows in the area as determined by statistics of the A.M.S. or a total of 30 percent during the 6-year period have been subjected to a post-mortem examination at an approved establishment.

(4) That all cattle in herds of origin or cattle associated with those showing evidence of tuberculosis at time of slaughter are immediately tuberculin tested in accordance with the provisions of the accredited herd plan (paragraph 1, Part I).

(5) That such other cattle as may be considered necessary by the State and Federal cooperating officials are tested.

(6) That the percentage of infection disclosed as a result of such tests as conducted under the provisions of this subparagraph does not exceed 0.2 percent of the area cattle population (excluding untested quarantine feeder cattle); the number of reactors used in computing the percentage of infection to be the number accumulated over the 6-year period.

15. If a retest of an area as provided for in paragraph 14 discloses more than 0.5 percent infection, accreditation shall be suspended until the above provisions have been met during a subsequent 18-month period except that the number of animals required to qualify under 14 (b) (3) or (c) (3) shall be at least 7.5 percent of the range and semi-range breeding cows in the area.

### Part III. Definitions

1. A "range animal" is interpreted to mean one maintained on natural forage and/or browse during the entire calendar year.

2. A "semi-range animal" is interpreted to mean one maintained on natural forage and/or brouse during the entire calendar year with occasional supplemental feeding.

3. A "commercial dairy herd" is a herd made up of cattle of the recognized dairy breeds from which milk is produced and sold as such for human consumption.

4. A "registered purebred herd" is one that has a minimum of 10 registered purebred cattle during all parts of the year and from which registered animals may be sold as such for breeding purposes.

5. A "farm herd" in the range and semi-range region is made up of cattle kept to supply milk and dairy products for home use, and those from which limited sales of milk or cream are made.

6. "Advanced tuberculosis" refers to carcasses of animals in which a lesion of tuberculosis (other than tuberculoid skin lesion) is found as a result of post-mortem examination.

7. "Annual tests" for purposes of herd accreditation means tests made in not less than 11 nor more than 15 months.

8. "Quarantined feeder cattle" -- cattle of the beef type maintained under strict quarantine for a limited period and marketed in a manner that will assure immediate slaughter.



Prepared by

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Agricultural Research Service  
United States Department of Agriculture  
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